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MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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'ARAFAT SPEECH CALLS FOR CONTINUED STRUGGLE

NC101415Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 10 May--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has called for continuing the struggle until the occupied Arab territories are completely liberated. He also praised the fighters' steadfastness in the face of the Zionist invasion of southern Lebanon.

This came in a speech 'Arafat made to unit commanders and fighters last night when he inspected the forward positions of the joint forces in southern Lebanon.

Meanwhile, PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has stated that the PLO rejects any international presence which would protect the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon. He added that the PLO will continue the struggle until the invading Israeli forces withdraw from southern Lebanon.

VOP: 'ARAFAT IN SAUDI ARABIA FOR TALKS

JN101625Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Saudi Arabia this morning. Brother Abu 'Ammar will hold talks with senior Saudi officials on the latest developments in the current situation in the Palestinian issue and the Arab area.

Meets With Crown Prince

JN101626Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, met in Riyadh today with Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince. During the meeting, a discussion was held of the latest developments in the current situation in the Arab area in general and the situation in the Lebanese arena in particular.

'Arafat arrived in Saudi Arabia today as part of a tour of several Arab countries.

'ARAFAT GIVES INTERVIEW TO CSSR YOUTH DAILY

AU091250Y Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 3 May 78 p 4 AU

[Interview given by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to Zbynek Fiala at an unspecified date and place for the column "More Than One Hour's Talk: Yasir 'Arafat on the Palestinian Revolution; We Want to Live With All People"]

[Excerpts] Our talk focused on the renewed conflict in Beirut and on the latest events in Lebanon. It is a conspiracy against the Palestinians, 'Arafat says. It is obvious that its main objective is to liquidate the PLO and our armed forces and also the annihilation of the Palestinians as the Israeli Knesset recently decided. Just 3 days after adopting this decision--I was shocked that a parliament could arrive at such a decision--they began a massive attack with armed forces.

The impetus came from the Americans. The weapons were also delivered by America: the F-15 aircraft, Phantoms, Lance missiles and cluster bombs. Through this attack they expected to destroy our forces in a few hours, without any difficulties. The attack took 8 days and nights--for the first time we did not allow the enemy to relax their efforts at night--and finally it was they who stopped fighting and asked for a truce. However, after recognizing that they would not succeed in liquidating our armed forces, they directed their attacks against the civilian population. Approximately 1,000 civilians were killed, 82 villages were bombed and 6 villages were completely destroyed. Refugee camps were also bombed, some of them with American cluster bombs. The conditions of American aid do not allow such use of cluster bombs. A great deal has been said about this, even in the Congress and in the American Government. Secretary of State Vance finally declared that the United States agrees with the aggression and said that Israel promised to end it within 48 hours.

But Israel soon felt that this was no easy trip and that, although we have no tanks, aircraft, or other modern heavy weapons, it is not easy to be confronted with our military forces without having to pay the highest toll....

Question: Could you briefly sketch the main PLO guiding principles? As I understand it, the idea of liberation and establishing an independent Palestinian state is one of them. In view of the differences of concepts, where could such a state be located? How could such a state be established?

Answer: Our Palestinian national assembly adopted a resolution which was agreed to by all Palestinians endorsing our movement and represented in our assembly and by all organizations and unions represented in this national assembly. According to this resolution, we will establish an independent state on any part of Palestine from which Israel withdraws or which is liberated. This is not something I say, this is a resolution of our national assembly.

Question: What will happen to the population of these territories, namely the Israeli population?

Answer: From the very beginning we have proclaimed that we are willing to jointly create such a democratic Palestinian state and that we intend to live in it together. They, however, insist: No, that means you want to conquer us. We want to establish a Palestinian state in any part of Palestine from which the Israelis will withdraw, and everybody who wants to cooperate with us will be welcome. We are no chauvinists.

Question: When negotiations on the Sinai, the Gaza Strip or the West Bank of the Jordan River start, how will the PLO respond to such offers?

Answer: As I said, we will establish a Palestinian state anywhere the Israelis withdraw, in Gaza, the West Bank--even in Jericho which is only a small town in the West Bank. If the Israelis leave, we will hang up our banner there.

Question: In the world--in Europe at least--detente is beginning to assert itself. Do you think this affects the Middle East, particularly the solution of the Palestinian problem?

Answer: Where are the signs of detente to be seen? What detente was there in the heavy fighting in southern Lebanon which was to destroy the Palestinians and their armed forces? I do not see any traces of detente in it. And do not forget that the Americans stepped back from the joint American-Soviet declaration of last year and replaced it with--after a 6-hour discussion between Dayan and Carter--a working document, the consequences of which you can see....

There is a lot of talk about the Israeli lobby in America....But this is only a mask for an enormous conspiracy. I shall give you an example. The Greek lobby in Washington is stronger than the Israeli lobby. But in spite of this the Greek lobby did not prevent the [U.S.] Government from renewing its deliveries of weapons to Turkey. All the talk about the Israeli lobby is only a big lie. And this is very important.

Question: Do you expect UN intervention to solve the Palestinian problem and is there anything particular you expect?

Answer: I do not expect anything like that, but they should certainly fulfill their role. There is no doubt that they have something to do with it. I have always been pointing to it.

But friends, Israel is living only thanks to the support of the Americans. They receive everything, from flour to Phantoms. They have nothing to worry about in this respect. Why? Because Israel is their "gangster" in this region; it is doing the job of protecting the interests of the United States and its monopolies and watching the oil wealth. Our enemy is not the Israeli military junta alone; everybody knows that. In addition to other deliveries and help, the United States grants Israel $3.5 billion a year.

The Israelis have never before developed such pressure on any of their borders as here [in Lebanon]. They declared that--not counting their air force and navy--one-third of their army took part in the war. Never before had they concentrated similar forces on any of their borders and fronts because--if you include the air force and navy--you will see that half of the Israeli armed forces took part in this last war.

Question: What is the role of the Palestinian liberation movement within Lebanon?

Answer: As you know, we and the Lebanese progressive forces have a common military and political command. As far as the Palestinian revolution is concerned, I will not state my own view now. I shall tell you something I read in the Egyptian press. You should also know that our relations with the Egyptian Government are rather strained, but a miracle can be multifaceted. Well: "We are witnesses to the fact that the Palestinian revolution, following its heroic confrontation with the Israeli Army, which--aside from its alliance with the patriotic forces--it resisted by itself, under present circumstances has assumed the leading role in the Arab liberation movement, both in the political and the military respect. This is true for the first time since the confrontation between the Arabs and Israel began." As I have already said, this is not my own opinion; it was published in Egypt and here consider our strained relations.

Question: Do you want to say that the Palestinian revolution is a sort of catalyst of progressive forces?

Answer: It is certainly more than that.

Question: In conclusion, we would like to turn to you as a representative of students. Could you say a few words we could convey as a message to students throughout the world?

Answer: Do not forget that I started my battle in the Palestinian student union. Therefore I have always felt very close to the student movement, not only to the Palestinian but to the entire world progressive student movement. I consider this movement very significant not only for my own people but also for the forces of progress throughout the world. Students are playing a very significant role in the battle for the interests of their people and for their future. And I think they share a great deal of responsibility not only for their own country but for the entire international liberation movement against imperialism, colonialism and Zionism.

QADDUMI INTERVIEWED BY PARIS ARAB JOURNAL

LD0916144 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI in Arabic 6 May 78 p 5 LD

[Interview granted by Faruq Qaddumi, head of PLO Political Department, to AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI in Paris following a meeting with the French foreign minister on 28 April]

[Text] French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud told Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department, that the Israeli forces will withdraw completely from Lebanon by July.

This was revealed to AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI by an official source close to the talks which were held at the French Foreign Ministry on Friday 28 April between the French foreign minister and Abu al-Lutf. The talks, which lasted more than an hour, were attended on the Palestinian side by PLO representative in Paris 'Izz ad-Din al-Qalaq.

The source said that the meeting between De Guiringaud and Abu al-Lutf was friendly and frank and centered in particular on the situation in Lebanon and the role of the French forces there at present and in the future. The talks also touched on recent developments in the Middle East.

De Guiringaud was frank. He affirmed that his information about the Israeli withdrawal is based on official French-Israeli contacts. He said that France insists on the need for total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territories and that it will firmly implement Security Council Resolution 425 which calls for the withdrawal of Israeli forces and helping the Lebanese Government to insure the reestablishment of its authority in the area.

The talks also dealt with PLO cooperation with the French forces in particular and the UN forces in general in implementing Resolution 425. Abu al-Lutf assured the French foreign minister what Yasir 'Arafat has already told UN Secretary General Waldheim: that the PLO will cooperate with the UN forces to insure total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

The same source said that De Guiringaud does not expect any new developments in the Middle East crisis before the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI met with Abu al-Lutf following his meeting with the French foreign minister and conducted the following interview:

[Question] What was the main topic on which the talks with the French foreign minister centered?

[Answer] The talks centered on the task of the French forces in southern Lebanon. We asked several questions in order to find the truth about the task of these forces and whether they have any task other than that provided for in Security Council Resolution 425. French Minister De Guiringaud was clear and frank. The task of the French forces in southern Lebanon is to implement Resolution 425 and they have no exceptional task going beyond the limitations and boundaries of this resolution. We also discussed certain incidents which took place in the past and which created some misunderstanding. The French foreign minister reaffirmed his country's friendly and cordial attitude toward the PLO and France's commitment to implement Resolution 425 in full so that the Israeli forces will withdraw from all the Lebanese territories and the UN forces will take control of positions occupied by Israel.

[Question] Has the French foreign minister given you any information indicating imminent new developments in the Middle East crisis?

[Answer] It seems clear that nothing will happen before Israel withdraws from Lebanon. Current diplomatic efforts are concentrated on issuing a declaration of principles, defining the broad lines of a peaceful settlement. There are no new elements in this situation.

[Question] What is the Palestinian attitude toward the current efforts to convene an Arab summit conference with the aim of reconciling the disputing parties:

[Answer] The proposed summit is meeting with difficulties. The Egyptian side must make it unmistakably clear that will halt As-Sadat's initiative. In our opinion and in the opinion of many international quarters, As-Sadat's initiative has failed and has encouraged Begin to occupy southern Lebanon because it divided the Arab ranks. Some people say that As-Sadat's initiative had certain positive aspects with regard to world opinion in that it has clearly exposed the truth about Israeli intransigence. But what is the use if a man wins the world but loses himself? In any case, the Egyptian side must declare a halt to the initiative. Such a declaration can be made by President as-Sadat himself, or by the government, or the People's Assembly, or by any other official quarter. This declaration would facilitate the convening of a summit; otherwise, any summit meeting held on the basis of the initiative would mean recognizing and accepting it.

[Question] How far has the dialog between Jordan and the PLO progressed? Are any steps expected to be taken in this field in the near future?

[Answer] Any dialog with Jordan must be on the basis of the Rabat summit resolutions, that is, the dialog should, at least, be between us, Jordan, and Syria and not bilateral. There are no new steps in this regard.

[Question] U.S.-Soviet relations are improving, especially since Vance's recent visit to Moscow. Do you believe this improvement will have any effect on the Middle East situation?

[Answer] Of course, any development in the relations between Washington and Moscow is bound to have positive or negative effects on the Middle East. In any case, we are watching with interest the development of these relations, especially since Vance's visit to Moscow.

[Question] You are interested in the war in the Horn of Africa. Do you believe the Cubans will support the Ethiopians with men and equipment in their military campaign against the Eritrean rebels? Has Cuba recently received Arab and Palestinian advice not to get militarily involved in Eritrea?

[Answer] The problem of Eritrea is of interest to all Arabs of various political and social inclinations. This has been a subject of discussion between us and our friends in the socialist camp in general and Cuba in particular. We believe the Eritrean problem must be solved peacefully. There are bases for a solution which must guarantee the Eritrean people's national rights and be based on UN resolutions.

PLO OFFICIAL ON FRESH ISRAELI MEASURES

JN101845Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Brother 'Abd al-Jawwad Salih, member of the PLO Executive Committee and member of the Department of the Occupied Homeland, has given a statement to the Palestinian news agency on the latest oppressive measures taken by the Israeli military administration against the West Bank municipal councils, trade unions and other organizations. These measures are meant to stop the waves of resistance and steadfastness that have followed in the wake of the recent Zionist aggression against Lebanon and to check the emergence of a spirit of resistance, steadfastness and heroism among the forces of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese nationalist movement in the face of the invading enemy forces.

The occupation authorities are intensifying their campaign of terror against the municipal councils because of the role these councils play in confronting the projects and plans of occupation. They are also seeking to contain the PLO, which is confronting the plot of alternative leadership and other liquidationist and capitulationist plots.

The enemy finds that the municipal councils are committed to the stands they have held since their election in 1976. The enemy considers them obstacles in the way of implementing its black schemes. Hence the strict measures issued by the new Zionist military governor, who issued a ban on any statements or press declarations by the municipal heads and prevented any social and political meetings. The governor prevented the head of the Nabulus Municipal Council from contacting any head of a municipal council in the West Bank. The enemy is paving the way for the dissolution of the councils.

BAGHDAD VOP CALLS FOR OVERTHROW OF JORDANIAN REGIME

JN101945Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] [Words indistinct] the royal regime in Jordan has made several flagrant attempts which we must discuss briefly to shed light on some of their facets. First, the royal regime in Jordan is now trying to play a political role designed to consolidate and complete the Cairo regime's initiative. The Jordanian regime is at the head of those calling for a gathering of reactionary Arab forces.

Second, the royal regime in Jordan is trying to appear progressive, using the king's visit to Yugoslavia as a cover for this appearance.

Third, the reactionary, backward fascist regime in Jordan is trying to clothe itself with certain false democratic appearances by reviving certain retired, aged patriotic forces for the purpose of propagating its plans. The regime is propounding a national front to include the various forces which constitute the most important facade in Jordan.

The purpose of these royal appearances is to prepare a coordinated means to face the growing ability of our Palestinian and Jordanian masses for confrontation and awareness.

Fourth, the backward royal regime is issuing licenses within the framework of the law for the creation of private societies under the supervision of the Interior Ministry. The regime has made tempting offers of furniture and grand houses to be used as centers for these socieities. Examples of such organizations are the Society of the Sons of Salama and the Society of the Sons of Lod and Er-Ramle. All these are political facades that serve the lackey regime and entrench loyalty to it. In addition, there are a considerable group of trumpets which the Jordanian regime is using to present a good image at a time when the sons of our people are being killed daily.

Fifth, the royal regime in Jordan finds the official Arab reality a good background for putting its plans into action.

Brothers, this is the new and yet old course which the reactionary regime has played and is playing--a historical role of protecting the Zionist enemy and suppressing the forces of the Arab revolution struggling to liberate Palestine. This regime will remain a heavy yoke on the one Palestinian-Jordanian people. To counter these conspiratorial schemes of the backward regime of the king, the forces of the Arab revolution must confront this imperialist scheme by resisting the role and moves which the royal Jordanian regime is making. The progressive patriotic forces in Jordan must unify their efforts so they will not be deceived by the flagrant tricks of the backward reactionary fascist regime. Relentless struggle must continue to overthrow this regime which, although grown up, is but an adolescent and will always remain a dwarf.

KUWAIT

STATEMENT ISSUED ON MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT

LD1012047 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Apparent text of "press statement" issued on Mauritanian President Mokhtar Ould Daddah's visit to Kuwait 8-10 May]

[Text] His Excellency President Mokhtar Ould Daddah, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, paid a visit to Kuwait 8-10 May accompanied by a delegation that included a member of the National Political Bureau, the Mauritanian foreign minister and a number of senior advisers.

During the visit His Excellency President Mokhtar Ould Daddah had talks with his royal highness the amir of Kuwait in the presence of a number of officials from both countries. The talks were characterized by a sincere, brotherly spirit which reflected the nature of relations between the two fraternal countries.

In their talks, the Kuwaiti and Mauritanian sides reviewed the latest developments in the current situation in the Arab world and the efforts being made to consolidate and strengthen Arab solidarity and unity. They expressed their firm desire to achieve this objective in the service of the aims and aspirations of the Arab nation. The two sides also discussed bilateral relations and the means of strengthening bonds of cooperation between their countries in various fields, particularly in economic cooperation.

A discussion was held on the possibility of Kuwaiti participation in economic development projects in Mauritania. The Kuwaiti side expressed its interest in this matter. It has been decided that the talks on this subject will be completed between officials in the two countries.

His Excellency President Mokhtar Ould Daddah extended an invitation to his royal highness the amir to visit Mauritania. His royal highness accepted the invitation, and the date will be set later.

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI ARABIA, IRAN AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO OIL PRICE RISE

LD1013462 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 May 78 pp 1, 16 LD

[Text] At-Ta'if--AS-SIYASAH correspondent by telephone--Saudi Arabia and Iran have agreed in principle and conditionally on a 7-percent increase in oil prices to become effective during the second half of this year, according to sources close to an Arab delegation to the extraordinary OPEC Ministerial Council meetings which were concluded here yesterday.

The sources said that delegates to the conference disagreed on two points:

First, the timing of the price increase: four delegations asked that the increase should be immediate and with retroactive effect from the beginning of the year, while some other delegates insisted on maintaining a price freeze until the end of this year. Eventually they agreed on the increase on the condition that it will become effective during the second half of this year.

Second, the rate of increase: While three delegations demanded increases ranging between 12 and 20 percent, others accepted less.

The sources said that the approval by Saudi Arabia and Iran to increase oil prices by 7 percent during the second half of this year was in principle and depended on U.S. efforts to support the dollar before the middle of this year, the date when the ordinary OPEC Ministerial Council is scheduled to meet.

The sources said that one of the Arab delegations to the conference brought with it a statistical report showing that the amount of losses incurred by OPEC countries because of the dollar drop during the first half of this year totalled $11 million which, according to the head of the delegation concerned, calls for a retroactive compensation which can be achieved only through increasing prices.

In conclusion, the sources said that although there were disagreements on these subjects, in the end the ministers agreed on the need for a 7-percent increase conditional upon serious efforts by the United States to boost the dollar.

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES

LD1015l2Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Ja'far Nadim, under secretary in the Iranian foreign ministry, [name and title as received] arrived in Riyadh at noon today on a visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival by the under secretary for political affairs in the Foreign Ministry; Jafar Ra'ed, Iranian ambassador to the kingdom; and an official of the royal protocol department.

IRANIAN ENVOY GIVES CROWN PRINCE MESSAGE FROM SHAH

LD1015l4Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1310 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, viceroy and crown prince, received at 1400 today Manuchehr Zelli, under secretary in the Iranian Foreign Ministry [name and title as received], who handed his highness a message from His Majesty Shah Mohamed Reza Pahlevi, shah of Iran. The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary for political affairs in the Foreign Ministry, and Jafar Ra'ed, Iranian ambassador to the kingdom.

After the meeting, which lasted about an hour, Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri said that the message is connected with common matters to which both countries give their attention, adding that this message falls within the framework of consultations between the Saudi and Iranian leaderships in the interest of the two countries and peoples.

SAUDI-BELGIAN COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED

LD102247Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Brussels--Prince Sa'ud ibn Faysal, the foreign minister, and Henri Simonet, Belgian Foreign Minister, today signed a cooperation agreement between the two countries providing for the formation of a joint cooperation committee to be chaired by the two foreign ministers and to meet alternatively in Brussels and Riyadh.

Prince al-Faysal said, after a 3-hour meeting with Henry Simonet, that the talks covered questions relating to bilateral relations and to international issues, stressing that the views of the two sides were identical regarding the situation in the Middle East and the effect of its developments on the European powers and the international community.

The Saudi foreign minister expressed the hope that the cooperation agreement would lead to the strengthening of cooperation between the two countries and that the forthcoming conference of the industrial states would be able to reach solutions to existing problems.

The Belgian foreign minister said he discussed the question of cooperation in the economic field between the two countries with Prince Faysal, adding that the international and Middle East situation, the effect of the failure of the peace efforts in the region on Europe and other states and the situation in Africa were also discussed.

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE RECEIVES 'ARAFAT, PLO OFFICIALS

LD101100Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--At 1230 today, the viceroy and crown prince, His Royal Highness the Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, received the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently on a visit to Riyadh, in his office at the royal court in Al-Ma'dhar.

The meeting was attended by the second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, His Royal Highness the Amir 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; members of the Central Committee of the PLO, Khalid al-Hasan and Mahmud Abbas and the Fatah representative in the kingdom, Yasin ash-Sharif.

Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Riyad earlier on a brief visit to the kingdom.

PDRY

DEFENSE MINISTER 'ANTAR: NEW PARTY WILL COMBAT EVILS

LD1023329Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Lt Col Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, minister of defense, has stressed that the question of defending the revolution's gains is one on which the destiny of the country's revolution and the future of its toiling masses depend. He said that the anticipated New Vanguard Party will strive to remedy a number of evils that are eroding the political body. He said that, with the birth of the new party, the country will enter a more advanced stage of construction.

He was speaking this morning to students of the Higher School of Scientific Socialism in a lecture related to yesterday's 33d anniversary of the victory over fascism.

"The brother minister of defense explained in his lecture that the extermination of fascism and the routing of the Nazi forces was not only a matter of pride to the Soviets and the militants in the socialist countries but also of pride to ourselves. This was because it created circumstances enabling us to build our new society and defend our country against the imperialist and reactionary forces."

FOREIGN MINISTER KAMIL MEETS WITH SAUDI AMBASSADOR

NC101520Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 10 May--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today received Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Abu al-Khayl, the Saudi ambassador in Cairo. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the current Arab situation, the latest developments in the Middle East crisis, the contacts taking place regarding various issues in the Arab arena, and issues connected with the foreign minister's scheduled tour of certain Arab states, including Saudi Arabia. This meeting took place within the framework of the contacts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia aimed at clearing the Arab atmosphere.

Ambassador Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Abu al-Khayl stated after the meeting that Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil will arrive in Saudi Arabia late next week. He will hold talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and senior officials regarding the current Arab situation and Egyptian-Saudi bilateral relations.

Saudi Ambassador's Comments

NC101920Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil will visit the kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the end of next week for talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on matters of interest to the Arab world. This was stated by Saudi Ambassador Muhammad Abu al-Khayl after his meeting with the foreign minister.

Abu al-Khayl also said that he discussed Arab developments with Foreign Minister Kamil. He added that Saudi Arabia and Egypt are in continuous contact to study the situation and promote Arab solidarity within the context of the efforts being exerted by the committee formed for that purpose under the chairmanship of President Numayri.

The Saudi ambassador said he expects an Arab summit to be held this year. He expressed hope that the Arab brothers will overlook their differences for the sake of the Arab issues of destiny.

Regarding the U.S. planes deal with Saudi Arabia, the Saudi ambassador said that his country will not accept terms harmful to Saudi and Arab integrity.

AFGHAN AMBASSADOR TOLD OF RECOGNITION OF GOVERNMENT

NC101327Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 May--Ambassador 'Umar Sharaf, the director of the Asian Department in the Foreign Ministry, today summoned the charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Afghanistan in Cairo and conveyed to him Egypt's decision to recognize the new government in Afghanistan.

HAYKAL ANALYZES EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DIALOG

JN101740 [Editorial Report JN] Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic on 6 and 10 May 1978 carries the first and second parts of a series entitled "The Lost Dialog" by former AL-AHRAM Editor Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal.

In the first part, Haykal admits there was a filure to understand the Egyptian-Israeli dialog or the meanings of the terms used during the discussions. He says that the two sides were not able to understand each other because of their different backgrounds and the different systems of government in the two countries. Haykal says: "In major disputes the dialog is not only what is exchanged in official and unofficial talks or through direct and indirect lines." He adds: "The dialog is what is stated by the Israeli prime minister anywhere, what is said by the leader of the ruling coalition, discussed in the Knesset, published in the Israeli newspapers and broadcast from Israeli radio stations." Haykal asks: "Do words have the same meaning to each side? Do names mean the same things or do gestures carry the same connotations?"

Discussing As-Sadat's initiative without mentioning his name, Haykal says that the Arabs called it a "one-man initiative." Haykal adds: "The man wanted to prove to the other sides that he had the power to make decisions. He wanted to take full responsibility and he wanted to save the others, especially on the international level, from any embarrassment, because they had relations with certain sides who were opposed to the initiative."

Haykal blamed the Egyptian authorities because they mobilized the people to receive and applaud the Israeli delegation. He said that the Israelis misunderstood the meaning of the warm welcome given them. Haykal concludes: "They understood what they wanted to understand--that is, that the Egyptian people wanted peace at any price."

In the second part Haykal is more clear and definite about the reasons why the dialog does not seem comprehensive. This is because of the values prevalent in Arab society. Haykal says: "By the end of 1973 we saw Henry Kissinger as the magician of Western diplomacy. We imagined that he alone would bring about a solution to the Middle East crisis and that that solution would be acceptable to us. But nothing happened.

"At the beginning of 1974 we thought that Henry Kissinger was only a secretary of state under Nixon. The authority and thus the solution lay in Nixon's hands. But nothing happened.

"In 1975 we thought that Gerald Ford, Nixon's successor, would be able to solve the problem, because he was a good man who loved justice and hated oppression. But nothing happened.

"In 1976 we thought that the new U.S. President would understand our problem and undertake to solve it, because he is a peasant from Georgia who tilled his land, planted it with peanuts and did not live among the politicians or in the political lobbies. But nothing happened.

"In 1977 we thought that the straight path led us to the beast in its lair. Thus came the initiative, after assurances from Romanian President Ceausescu that Menahem Begin, the new Israeli Prime Minister, wanted peace and had the power to enforce it. But nothing happened.

"We never once stopped to ask ourselves why nothing happened. And when we tried to explain the reasons for these paradoxes, we only rationalized: Kissinger could not because they besieged and crippled him; Nixon could not because they sprang Watergate on him; Ford could not because he did not have the time to do anything before his fall; Carter could not because Begin materialized in front of him like a genie from a bottle; and Begin could not because he had a split personality--he met us in Jerusalem like a docile cat and faced us in Ismailia like a wolf hungry for territory and settlements."

Haykal seeks the true reason, saying: "According to our standards, we imagined that Nixon, Ford and Carter in the United States had the same power of decision possessed by the Arab presidents, kings and sultans. And since Yemen, Morocco and Oman are not as powerful as the United States, then it followed that the U.S. President is almighty. He can do anything he wishes and if his intentions are good he can implement these intentions in a moment's notice."

Haykal says that the Israeli attitude is based on its strategy. This strategy, according to Haykal is: "establishment of the state, expansion and open immigration." Haykal says: "Therefore, it is not a strange thing to hear that the government and the opposition in Israel are agreed on the following points in any negotiations--namely, no return to pre-1967 borders on any part of Palestine and no dealing with the PLO." Haykal concludes: "Thus our leaders have the authority and their leaders have the strategy."

PARIS RADIO ON ASSASSINATION OF EGYPTIAN CP FOUNDER

LD041432Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 4 May 78 LD

[Summary] An outrage has occurred in Paris. Henri Curiel, founder of the Egyptian Communist Party and considered as being closely linked to international terrorism, was killed by several shots from a pistol fired by two unknown persons. The attack took place on the ground floor of the building where Henri Curiel lived in the city's Fifth Department. The two attackers got away and just now an anonymous telephone caller claimed responsibility for the attack in a call to the AFP. The caller said:

"Today at 1400 Henri Curiel, agent of the KGB, a militant for the Arab cause and a traitor to France, his adopted country, finally ended his activities. He was executed in remembrance of all our dead. In our last operation we gave a warning. Signed: Delta."

I remind you that a Delta commando already claimed responsibility for the assassination of the president of the society of friends of Algeria in France. No further details are available at present. Curiel was 63 years old.

MINISTER RETURNS FROM OPEC MEETING, MAKES STATEMENT

JN1009555Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 May--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and oil minister, and the members of his delegation returned to Baghdad this morning after attending OPEC's unofficial ministerial meeting in Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, and OAPEC's 20th ministerial meeting in Kuwait yesterday.

'Abd al-Karim said that the Iraqi delegation succeeded in its efforts to make OPEC adopt some of the Iraqi proposals, particularly those on the formation of an economic committee to examine the supply and demand market equation, the possibility of adopting a single accounting unit instead of the diminishing U.S. dollar and the rectification of prices. The minister said that this committee will submit its findings on these three topics to OPEC's official ministerial meeting, to be held 16 June in Geneva, for further consideration.

'Abd al-Karim also said that the OPEC meeting formed a ministerial committee composed of Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Iran, as well as Venezuela in its capacity as chairman of the current session, to formulate a long-term strategy for the organization aimed at protecting the oil revenues of the member states from erosion due to inflation, an oil surplus and the deterioration of fluctuation in the values of the major currencies.

Minister 'Abd al-Karim said that the Iraqi delegation has succeeded, with the support of other delegations, in foiling the attempts to freeze prices for a long period without radically tackling the problems of exported inflation, the serious oil glut in world markets and the deterioration in the value of the dollar. He said that these problems cannot be left unsolved on the pretext that the dollar may improve and that the surplus is unavoidable.

The forthcoming OPEC ministerial meeting will be very important because it will consider the adjustment of prices for the second half of this year to make up the great financial losses in the oil revenues of the member states due to the drop in the value of the U.S. dollar, the inflation imported from the industrial states and the oil surplus in some markets which amounts to 3 million barrels daily. The International Energy Agency is using this surplus as a weapon to destroy OPEC and disrupt the price structure.

'Abd al-Karim said that the 20th OAPEC meeting in Kuwait resulted in the signing of an agreement concerning the Arab Petroleum Institute for training which is to be established in Baghdad. This institute will have a great impact on the creation of Arab cadres in every part of the oil industry. This meeting also resulted in the signing of a protocol concerning the formation of OAPEC's juridical committee. This is one of the organization's biggest gains. OAPEC also agreed in principle on a 5-year plan and suggested some amendments prior to the adoption of the plan during the ministerial meeting to be held on 18 December in Abu Dhabi.

IRAQ OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZES NEW AFGHANISTAN REGIME

JN1012237 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] The Republic of Iraq today decided to recognize the new regime in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Foreign Ministry issued the following statement: In order to strengthen the existing cordial relations between the Iraqi and Afghan peoples, the Government of the Republic of Iraq has decided to recognize the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and to continue the relations between the two countries in all fields.

ECONOMIC DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MOSCOW MEETINGS

JN100947Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 May--An Iraqi delegation left Baghdad this morning for Moscow headed by Subhi Yasin, under secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Minerals and deputy head of the Iraqi side to the meetings of the 8th session of the Iraqi-Soviet joint committee which will begin in the Soviet capital today.

The committee will follow up on implementation of the decisions adopted during the previous sessions and also discuss future cooperation between the two countries.

The delegation includes representatives of the industry, oil, irrigation and agriculture, and education ministries.

NEW VILLAGES IN NORTHERN IRAQ TO HOUSE 28,000

JN101130Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 May--Some 28,000 in the automous region in northern Iraq will move over the next 2 months into modern villages built for them in the region.

It was reported here today that these villages are located in Irbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dahuk Provinces. The smallest of the villages consists of 400 houses and the biggest contains 3,000 houses. Each house consists of two bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and other facilities. Health, cultural and educational services, as well as water and electricity and other infrastructure features, have been made available to these villages.

The building of these villages is part of the program to turn the Iraqi countryside into a prosperous socialist countryside.

POLITICAL REFUGEES RETURN HOME FOLLOWING AMNESTY

JN100941Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 May--It was reported here today that many Iraqis living abroad have returned to the homeland. Reporting this today, the magazine ALIF BA', which is published here, said that these people have benefitted from the Revolution Command Council's decision to pardon all Iraqi political refugees for convictions or charges brought against them because of the incidents in northern Iraq. The period of the pardon, which was fixed for 2 months and later extended for another 3 months, will expire on 19 May.

CUBAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION CONCLUDES 10-DAY VISIT

JN101025Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 May--A Cuban delegation led by Ernesto Melendez Bachs, vice president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation with Foreign Countries, left Baghdad this morning following a 10-day official visit to Iraq. During this visit, Bachs met with Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, and discussed with him various aspects of cooperation between the friendly countries and the means of improving them.

Bachs also held talks with Iraqi officials in the fields of industry, agriculture, commerce, health, transport, construction, sports and youth welfare. The discussions dealt with strengthening the cooperation between the two countries in all these fields.

HUSAYN SENDS MESSAGE TO EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT

JN101515Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak has received Jordanian Ambassador in Cairo Dhuqan al-Hindawi, who handed him a letter from His Majesty King Husayn for President Anwar as-Sadat.

In a statement issued following the 1-hour meeting, the ambassador said that a general review of the principles of Arab actions and the tour of Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri to restore Arab solidarity and convene an Arab summit conference took place during the meeting. The ambassador explained to the Egyptian vice president how Jordan feels the concepts of leadership and government should be developed to serve as the mainstays of the Arab cause during the next stage in light of Israel's aggressive policy on the one hand and efforts within the framework of the Arab and international changes on the other.

HUSAYN CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

JN091452Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 9 May--His Majesty King Husayn has sent a cable to Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak congratulating him on Czechoslovakia's national day and wishing him and the Czechoslovak people progress and prosperity in his own name and on behalf of the Jordanian people.

AMMAN TELEVISION REPORTS ON JORDANIAN-MAURITANIAN TALKS

JN101855Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and Mauritanian president Moktar Ould Daddah held a round of official talks in Al-Hashimiyah Palace this afternoon. The talks covered a review of the aspects of the current Arab situation and the common Arab issues being faced by the Arab nation at this stage.

The Mauritanian president explained the situation in North Africa. They exchanged views on the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and the Palestinian issue. The two sides discussed their relations and various aspects of joint cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

His Majesty King Husayn explained the plan for joint Arab action included in the proposed Jordanian work program for the meetings of the Arab summit conference called for by His Majesty King Husayn.

VOICE OF LEBANON: UN, PALESTINIAN FORCES CLASH AGAIN

NC101203Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] According to reports received from southern Lebanon this morning, Palestinian and communist armed men again tried to provoke the Norwegian UN forces on the Kawkabah crossroads by attempting to enter the area for the second time. The reports say that a clash took place in this area in which medium weapons were used. The clash lasted about 2 hours. One Palestinian was killed and two others were wounded.

Because of the intermittent clashes between the UN forces and armed men in some southern Lebanese positions, the arrival of the Nigerian force has been postponed until tomorrow. The force was scheduled to arrive today.

VOICE OF LEBANON: LEBANESE FRONT SENDS CABLE TO CARTER

NC102012Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] At noon tomorrow the Lebanese Front will release the text of the cable it has sent to U.S. President Jimmy Carter concerning the situation in Lebanon, particularly the Palestinian presence in the south.

AL-HUSS CONTINUES CONTACTS TO FORM GOVERNMENT

NC101144Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today continued his contacts and consultations within the framework of his attempt to surmount the obstacles that still obstruct the formation of the government.

This morning, Prime Minister al-Huss met with Deputy Fu'ad Lahhud. They reviewed the government situation. It has been learned that the discussions concentrated on bringing views closer and surmounting the obstacles.

This morning, Prime Minister al-Huss also received Maj Johnny 'Abdu, chief of the army's G-2. At 1000, the prime minister met with Ibrahim Qulaylat, chairman of the Command Council of the Independent Nasirites. Later, Al-Huss met with 'Adnan al-Hakim. They discussed the government situation.

At noon, Prime Minister al-Huss met with Walid Junblatt, who said later: While preserving our declared principled stands, we do not impose our trusteeship or veto on anyone. He added: We discussed the situation in general.

At 1300, the prime minister met with Health Minister Dr Ibrahim Shu'aytu.

Al-Huss Remarks

NC110829Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 11 May 78 NC

[Excerpts] The prime minister-designate, Dr Salim al-Huss, today explained the difficulties and impediments obstructing the formation of a government. He also spoke about the efforts being exerted to overcome these difficulties.

Asked whether he believes the formation of the government has taken more time than it should, his excellency said: We gave ourselves a last chance to overcome the difficulties and impediments which obstruct the formation of a government.

We wanted to solve the question before today. But as a result of the contacts and consultations we held recently, we preferred to wait a few more days before relinquishing the formula we want to adopt at this phase for another formula which might have been a way out of the whirlpool of affiliations in which we are revolving. However, the latter was not the most effective formula at the present phase.

Asked about the formula which they want to adopt, Al-Huss said: The form of any government is dictated by the requirements of the phase through which we are living. We are not aspiring to the ideal at this phase, but to something better and practical in the light of the bitter reality and the requirements of the phase through which we are living. The formula about which we are speaking is no longer a secret. Ever since the beginning, our thinking has been geared toward the formation of a government of 16 to 18 ministers including elements from inside and outside parliament and representing the various political trends.

KUWAITI PAPER: NEW LEFTIST FRONT EMERGING IN SOUTH

LD101600Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 May 78 p 19 LD

["The sprouting of Marxist parties and fronts in the area: A New Political Phenomenon Not Only in Lebanon But Also in the Middle East"]

[Text] Following the recent Zionist military occupation of southern Lebanon, it has been noted that many political attitudes have developed as a result. One of these political developments has been the emergence and unification of several organizations and factions. AS-SIYASAH has previously referred to the organizational conference held by some factions of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. The result of the conference has been that these factions have ceased to operate under their individual names and have assumed the name of "the People's Socialist Revolutionary Party". This party now includes the following: the Lebanese Socialist Revolutionary Movement, the Popular Revolutionary Organization, and the Nationalist Youth Movement in Sayda.

Observers note that developments in political attitudes in the Lebanese arena have not been confined to the Lebanese Nationalist Movement but also include certain factions of the Palestinian resistance. It has been noted that the military cadres of these factions have become inclined toward conducting their own affairs and leading their own fighters, in cooperation with the progressive and radical organizations and factions of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. This has led to the serious rallying of certain political leaderships in an attempt to bring about a combat front that will shoulder the task of the current fighting in southern Lebanon.

The latest result of the efforts to forge a unified political and military attitude for the largest possible number of factions and organizations of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement was mentioned in the first political statement issued by the "Popular Resistance Front for the Liberation of Southern Lebanon from Occupation and Fascism."

The front, which mainly consists of experienced fighters and politically indoctrinated militarists and which has close ties with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], includes fighters from the Arab Socialist Action Party, the league of workers, the revolutionary committees, the People's Socialist Revolutionary Party, the communist action organization, and other new leftist parties and small groups.

Certain sources say that this front enjoys the support to the PFLP and some of Fatah's rejectionist military cadres which support the idea of continuing the fight and which are actually fighting with the front's fighters behind the enemy lines and on the front.

In its first political statement, the Popular Resistance Front for the Liberation of the South from Occupation and Fascism explained the attitude of all the parties effectively influencing the conflict with the Zionist enemy and underlined the position of each of these parties.

In its statement the front says that a new explosion is expected to occur in the present, tense situation in the Lebanese arena. In evaluating the attitude of the Lebanese Front, the statement says: "When we look at the attitude of the Lebanese Front as declared by its leader Camille Sham'un, whose views are identical with those of Israel and who has openly allied the Lebanese Front with Israel and who adopts the same attitude as Israel in considering the presence of the Palestinian resistance as an occupation of Lebanon; when we see his close ties and association with Israel, we realize that the Lebanese Front will throw all its weight into the field in order to complete the liquidation of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement."

The front also links the attitude of the Lebanese Front with that of Islamic reaction in Lebanon and of the Lebanese Government in that these three parties aim at liquidating the resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

In criticizing and evaluating the attitude of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, the front said in its statement: "The joint forces command has committed a grave error that can only be explained as lack of judgment of the military situation and it has thus created confusion in the ranks of the fighters and spread anarchy and disorder in the front with the Zionist enemy.

"In facing the enemy, the Nationalist Front unfortunately forgot its nationalist stand and balanced solution. Probably the attitude of those Palestinian resistance factions which proposed and accepted withdrawal [from the south] contributed to the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's wrong decision on withdrawal. This is unimportant. What is important is that we should have the courage to examine the mistake and draw a lesson from it that will be useful to us in our long battle with our nationalist and class enemies--the Zionists and the fascists."

In its statement the front praises the attitude of the Palestinian resistance and expresses its high appreciation for the Palestinian resistance's role in driving the masses of the Lebanese people toward adopting the attitude of firm and solid struggle. The front said: "We are indebted to the heroic resistance of our Palestinian Arab people. We highly appreciate and respect its sacrifices, struggle, and honorable fighting role. It has fought and offered sacrifices in defense of our land and of the toilers among our people. We shall remain faithful to it. However the Lebanese struggle may grow and develop and however advanced we may become in revolutionary action, we shall never forget that we are indebted to its initiative and that it has set a fine example.

"But does placing on record this fact, which is undisputed by those who are loyal and sincere, mean that the resistance cannot err and should not be brought to account or criticized?

"No, the Palestinian resistance commits major and minor mistakes as well as insignificant and fatal ones. But if we apply the rule that says he who works e..., then we can see that the tremendous action of the Palestinian resistance in its difficult struggle and conditions has led it to making serious mistakes in the past and to facing perilous situations."

The front also condemned the attitudes of the Arab regimes which it divides into two categories. The first is the front of steadfastness and confrontation, and the second is the other Arab League countries.

In evaluating the international situation, the front says concerning the socialist camp and the Soviet Union that "the attitude of the socialist countries in general and the Soviet Union in particular could have been better than it is at present if there had been an Arab side that dealt with the imperialist-Zionist enemy the same way Vietnam or Angola or, more recently, Ethiopia dealt with imperialism and its reactionary allies. However, the weakening position of the effective Arab forces in the arena has kept the Soviet Union a captive of its previous policy, which is based on the peaceful solution of the Palestine problem.

"With regard to the United States and the European capitalist countries, they are playing the basic role of influencing developments and events in our area. The United States is the defender of Israel; it is the director, manager and planner of the policies of regimes in the area. It has the first and decisive say in determining the stands of the fascist, isolationist, and reactionary forces. It is the number one enemy of the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, and of everything that is progressive, revolutionary, and nationalist in our Arab countries and in the whole world."

In conclusion, the front says in its statement that it is not a party committed to a particular ideology which makes it conditional to its membership. Rather, "We are a front based on the political situation that has been imposed by the nature of our people's struggle. Although it has come about as a result of a spontaneous initiative by the fighters standing firm in their battle positions in the face of the savage Israeli attack, our front is merely a rallying point of various views and opinions whose basic common ground consists in their progressive and nationalist outlook and their commitment to armed revolutionary violence in the face of reactionary violence, without disregarding other forms and means of struggle which must form basic tributaries to the mainstream of revolutionary violence and enhance its vigor.

"Undoubtedly our initiative is spontaneous and was not planned in advance. When, on the fifth day of the war, we found ourselves fighting the Zionist enemy alone; when our responsible commands abandoned their responsibility of directing us and drawing up combat plans against our Zionist enemy and failed to provide us with supplies necessary to continue the fight; and when we found ourselves standing on the same battlefield and within a unified nationalist, progressive and revolutionary framework, we realized the need to coordinate our stand and to organize our struggle on the basis of relations within a single front of comradeship."

ALGERIA

SUDANESE PRESIDENT NUMAYRI ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

LD101428Y Algiers APS in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Algiers--President Ja'far Numayri of the Democratic Republic of Sudan arrived in Algiers at 1320 today on a working visit. He was welcomed at Dar-al-Bayda airport by President of the Republic and Chairman of the Council of the Revolution and Council of Ministers Houari Boumediene.

Boumediene, Numayri Begin Talks

LD102212Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Algerian-Sudanese talks began this evening at the People's Palace in Algiers under the chairmanship of President Houari Boumediene on the Algerian side and of Ja'far Numayri on the Sudanese side.

The following also took part in those talks on the Algerian side: Mr Rabah Bitat, president of the People's National Assembly; Mohamed Salah Yahjaoui, member of the Council of the Revolution and executive official in charge of the party apparatus; and Mr Taleb Ibrahimi, minister-adviser to the president of the republic. On the Sudanese side were: Mr ar-Rashid at-Tahir, vice president of the republic and minister of foreign affairs; Mr Abu Bakr Uthman, minister of the presidency of the Council of Ministers; and the Sudanese ambassador in Algiers.

This evening, President Houari Boumediene gave a dinner at the People's Palace in honor of President Ja'far Numayri.

SUDAN

AS-SAHAFAH: NEW PHASE OF SOVIET RELATIONS POSSIBLE

LD102328Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] AS-SAHAFAH has devoted its editorial to Sudanese-Soviet relations in the context of the leader-president's assurance to the Cairo magazine ROSE AL-YUSUF that the May revolution was neither hostile to the USSR nor was it striving for enmity with the socialist countries. If Sudan's relations with the USSR had deteriorated at a certain time, it had not been Sudan which had initiated hostility--on the contrary [word indistinct] had been imposed on it, but it was striving to end them.

AS-SAHAFAH says: The current situation opens the door for the possibility of improving Sudanese-Soviet relations and the turning of a new page on the basis of affirming Sudan's clear policy of nonalinement with regard to the world camps and its commitment to keep the African Continent free of international conflicts and to prevent it from becoming a center for [word indistinct].

U.S. COMPANY REPORTEDLY FINDS LARGE OIL DEPOSITS

LD091542Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 9 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Reports from Khartoum say that oil has been discovered in Sudan in quantities bigger than those discovered in any Middle East country. The Sudanese daily newspaper AL-AYAM said that the discovery was made by the American oil company, Chevron.

The newspaper added that Sudan will be one of the world's main oil-producing nations within a few years. The paper said that President Ja'far Numayri was expected to officially announce the discovery on 26 May, the ninth anniversary of Sudan's May revolution.

TUNISIA

NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED FOLLOWING TUNIS VISIT

LD101345Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] At 1030 today, President Habib Bourguiba had talks with Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri at the Republican Palace in Carthage.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Hedi Nouira; the president's private adviser, Habib Bourguiba Jr; and the minister of foreign affairs, Mohamed Fitouri. The meeting, which took place in a fraternal atmosphere, was attended on the Sudanese side by members of the Sudanese delegation accompanying President Numayri and the Sudanese ambassador in Tunis, Ja'far Abu Hajj [name as received].

The Sudanese president left Tunis at 1105 following a 24-hour visit. He was seen off at Tunis-Carthage airport by Prime Minister Nouira.

At the airport, our correspondent asked President Ja'far Numayri the following questions: [begin recording]

[Question] Mr President, at the end of this short visit to Tunis--a visit full of meetings, especially with the supreme struggler, President Habib Bourguiba, and Prime Minister Nouira--how would you describe your meeting this morning?

[Answer] The meeting was good and successful. He confirmed what Prime Minister Hedi Nouira said at yesterday's talks. He confirmed everything said then. This was a reaffirmation of Tunisia's principled attitudes on all the fateful issues, Arab and international. We regard Habib Bourguiba not only as (?a leader) of Africa but also of the Arab nation because of the vast and useful experience he has. We must benefit from this experience in leading our Arab peoples.

[Question] Mr President, what are your impressions of this visit?

[Answer] I believe that my visit to Tunis has reaffirmed that Arab solidarity is a present reality. But there are some obstacles which, if we work together, we can, as we have agreed here with our brothers, remove from our path; then this solidarity will become a reality for the Arab peoples and nation.

[Question] One last question. What about the relations between Tunisia and fraternal Sudan and the prospects for these relations?

[Answer] We are working to widen the channels of contacts and to bolster them so that we can realize our aspirations--the aspirations of both the Tunisian and Sudanese people--for an increase in these relations and contacts.

[Question] Thank you. [end recording]

BEGIN SPEAKS TO NATION ON ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

TA102008Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1803 GMT 10 May 78 TA

[Address to nation on 30th anniversary of nation by Prime Minister Menahem Begin]

[Text] On the eve of independence day, I turn to you, the citizens of Israel, with basic and principle words. In the 30 years since we freed ourselves from foreign domination and renewed our independence in Eretz Yisra'el, our people have accomplished things about which each and every one of us is filled with citizens' pride. We are five times as numerous as when we established out state. Those returning to Zion have come to us from dozens of countries and became one nation renewing its youth. We have kept our state an open house for every Jew who has been persecuted or who feels degraded in exile or decides to return to the homeland in order to live here as a free man. We have kept the character of the State of Israel as a free state, built on democratic foundations, while all around us are dictatorships and tyrants.

The building was wonderful, in town and country, in agriculture and industry. The educational system is Israel's pride. The health services have been broadened. Our country is beautiful, green. Our land, with its developed sources of water, is fruitful. The land is good, very good. How few we were at the beginning of our road; how poor were our weapons, with which we withstood the heavy campaign against those who rose up against us. Today an enormous force stands at the disposal of the nation. It is indeed true that not since the days of the Maccabees have the people of Israel been so rooted in their country as they are today. There is reason to give thanks; there is much to be grateful for.

But we look toward the future and to it, to our future, we will give our concern. We must continue to maintain our state as an open house for every Jew, as a free land, a land of immigration and settlement, as a center of renewed Hebrew culture, as a center of the Torah of Israel, as one of the world centers of developed science. We must do away with poverty and misery among families with many children and give every citizen an honest chance to advance in life. There are still many obstacles and difficulties before us. But if we remember what we have overcome on the road up to now, we will have faith that we will advance in the future in all spheres of national and governmental creativity.

Peace--it is still not given to us, although we are making and will continue to make every effort to achieve it. We must say clearly that it is our duty to guarantee to our people and future generations genuine peace, and not put them, heaven forbid, in danger of constant blows from those who wish us harm. This is the combination which cannot be separated, between our right to Eretz Yisra'el and the national security needs. The great campaign these days is over this. Do not despair. The difficulties did not begin yesterday or the day before yesterday. We must stand firm in the belief in our justice. We will overcome these difficulties and we will, with the help of the Lord, gain the genuine peace that all of us hope for. We will continue to make every possible effort to obtain this national objective and fulfill the other national and governmental targets--political, social and economic--facing us in the 31st year since the birth of Israel. Happy independence day to the entire house of Israel.

DAYAN INTERVIEWED ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

TA101544Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 May 78 pp 1, 4 TA

[Interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, by Ilan Kefir, YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent in London--date not specified]

[Excerpt] "On the occasion of Israel's 30th year since independence, I anticipate a political breakthrough in the Middle East conflict. [paragraph continues]

I hope that the negotiations with Egypt continue and even extend to include the Palestinian issue." This was stated by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in a special interview to YEDI'OT AHARONOT on the occasion of the 30th independence day.

Discussing what could be expected in the 31st year of the state and beyond, the foreign minister said: "I hope that this year we will be able to reach negotiations with the Egyptians and maybe also with Jordan and the Palestinians on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip about the territorial future of these areas, about the problems of the Arab refugees and about the relations between us, the Israelis, and the residents of the Arab territories."

To my regret, he continued, and despite the chances for a settlement with Egypt, I cannot foresee in the coming months and years a settlement and complete calm with the rejectionist countries led by Syria and Iraq. These countries reject the very existence of the State of Israel and I do not foresee any chance of reaching a settlement with them in the near future. At the most we may reach a settlement with Egypt and Jordan despite the expected difficulties.

As regards defense, political and economic issues, I expect there will be certain stability in the coming years thanks mainly to the great support of the world Jewry and U.S. friendship.

On what does the foreign minister base his optimism concerning the chance for resuming the negotiations with Egypt?

Dayan: "I think it is possible that our plan to discuss deeds and not principles will be accepted by the Egyptians. I do not think that the United States would have raised this subject in the talks we had at the State Department had there been no desire for this in Egypt.

"I do not think we should change anything in our initiative, in our peace plan. In my opinion, it is good and comprehensive, if negotiations indeed start and the other parties, both the Egyptians and the United States suggest changes, we will have to discuss them. Our plan is not an ultimatum. I do not think we should introduce changes in our plan at our own initiative."

Question: How do you see the future of the West Bank at the end of the 5-year period of the autonomy plan?

Answer: This is one of the important issues the cabinet will have to discuss in the future. I would not want to discuss this subject at this early stage.

Question: Does the very readiness to discuss the future of the West Bank with the Egyptians as one of the first and major issues constitute, in your opinion, a mine that may blow up the talks in the future?

Answer: It would have been easier to discuss with each state and with each leadership the subject directly connected with it. With As-Sadat we should have discussed the Sinai and the Gaza Strip refugees. With Husayn and local Palestinian representatives we should have discussed the future of the West Bank and the refugees. If it is possible to promote the negotiations by discussing with Egypt questions pertaining to the West Bank, we will do so.

Question: Does it seem likely to you that Egypt will be ready to undertake the representation of the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip without having Husayn and their direct representatives join the talks?

Answer: I do not yet know if Egypt will be ready to undertake this. The question is whether Egypt will be able to find parties authorized to speak for the Palestinians with whom we will be able to have a thorough discussion aimed at solving the problems.

Question: Will you view an Egyptian agreement or conclusion regarding the Palestinian issue as a commitment of the residents of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip?

Answer: It is too early to say, it all depends on who is speaking, what they say and their authority to speak. In principle one can say that the Egyptians have no less authority to discuss the issue of the Gaza Strip than Jordan has to discuss the West Bank.

Question: In case of a deadlock in the negotiations and in view of the fear of local Palestinian elements to conduct negotiations with Israel, will you be prepared to consider a dialog with the PLO if it cancels the clause in the Palestinian Charter on the annihilation of Israel?

Answer: No, absolutely not. I will not agree to meet with 'Arafat and with members of this murderers' organization. None of us views them as partners for negotiations.

Will Jerusalem be a subject for negotiations?

According to Dayan, united Jerusalem has been and will remain the capital of Israel and there is no question about this. The question of the holy places and the Arab towns around the capital will be subjects for negotiations. The towns of Ramallah and Bethlehem and the villages of ('Izarya) and (Shu'afat) are today an inseparable part of Jerusalem. It seems to me that the residents of these towns are not interested in being cut off from Jerusalem and are interested in continuing the common framework of life with the Jewish population.

I cannot go into detail regarding the holy places but the tendency is to grant freedom of action to all faiths. This is one of the subjects on which the government will have to decide.

Does Dayan not fear that a political deadlock may undermine the As-Sadat initiative?

He answers: "If there is no continuation for this initiative for a long while and the negotiations are not resumed, the initiative will remain lifeless. Lifeless negotiations will die. It will be very regrettable if As-Sadat's brave initiative remains an episode which came and went without any results.

"It will be regrettable if this happens. We will do everything in order to keep the negotiations alive."

Is the foreign minister concerned about the demonstrations of the Peace Now Movement and the rise in its activities?

It is hard for me to understand this phenomenon, Moshe Dayan says. I would like the demonstrators to come and tell us what else they expect of us. I would like to ask them what else we should do in the Sinai in order to meet and further Egypt's demands. We have proposed to As-Sadat sovereignty over the entire Sinai, something nobody expected us to do at such an early stage. There were quite a few who criticized us for this farreaching step.

As for the West Bank, we have a plan that seems to me a good basis for negotiations. Yet nobody is prepared to discuss this with us. What we want is peace.

In a look backward, how would the foreign minister sum the 30 years of Israel's independence?

"I think we can look back with satisfaction at the past 30 years. Not all of our dreams were realized but for the first time Jews are living in their land and enjoying liberty and political independence.

"This was the objective of the country when it was established. For long years we did not have the right to enter, emigrate to and settle in the country. We could not pray at the Western Wall. Today everything is different. Jerusalem is no longer a city with a wall dividing it and the Western Wall is liberated.

"We have many problems that cannot be ignored but we are independent in a Jewish state."

DAYAN DISCUSSES INTERVIEW HE GAVE TO SWEDISH TV

TA102055Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2010 GMT 10 May 78 TA

[Israeli TV correspondent Mikha'el Karpin interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in Oslo--recorded, via satellite from Oslo]

[Text] [Dayan in midsentence] ...why we did not respond properly to As-Sadat and I had to explain how much we gave to As-Sadat, more than he or anyone had expected. Today what is holding up the negotiations with Egypt is not that Egypt is not pleased with what it has received from Israel, but that it has no other Arab partners and not what Israel was prepared to give it.

[Question] Mr Dayan, you were quoted yesterday by Swedish Television as having said that a new war is to be expected because of As-Sadat's isolation. Did you say this?

[Answer] I did not say that and I want to tell you that journalists can sometimes drive you crazy, without meaning to insult you. They take, just for sensation, a sentence from here, a sentence from there, just to make a sensational headline. I was asked, and I said that if in the end, nothing comes of the negotiations for peace, there is certainly a possibility that there will be another war initiated by the Arabs; but not as any sort of topical thing or something expected in the near future.

DAYAN: RETALIATION POSSIBLE IF TERRORISTS STRIKE AGAIN

TA110608Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 May 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan does not rule out new Israeli retaliation in south Lebanon if terrorist attacks against Israel are carried out under a UN umbrella. He told newsmen in Oslo that he hoped UNIFIL would not allow the PLO to carry out such actions.

Israel was handing over the area to UN forces on the assumption that the PLO terrorists would be barred from the region.

He did not think that Israeli troops would fight UN forces in south Lebanon if they failed in their mission.

Asked whether the Soviet Union could play an active role in Middle East peace efforts, Dayan said the Soviet Union was siding with the rejectionist Arab states and was not encouraging the Arabs to participate in President as-Sadat's peace initiative.

NEW CHIEF OF STAFF BRIEFS KNESSET COMMITTEE

TA101210Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 10 May 78 p 1 TA

[Text] The question of whether a change is taking place in the deployment of UN forces in southern Lebanon, especially in the Tyre region, will become clear in the coming days, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said yesterday in a review of the situation in southern Lebanon.

In the review, given to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, the chief of staff said that for the time being the situation in southern Lebanon is stable and there are no signs of a return of armed terrorists to the region. Nevertheless we should wait and see how things develop. The chief of staff said that the coordination between IDF units and the UN forces is satisfactory.

Further on Remarks

TA1012115 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 May 78 p 5 TA

[By Yehoshu'a Bizur]

[Excerpts] Ultimately we will get out of southern Lebanon, Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan told a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee yesterday. However, he neither named a date nor defined the period during which the IDF would maintain its positions beyond the border.

The appearance of the chief of staff before the committee was marked by the conciseness and brevity of his remarks, a characteristic that has already become his trademark. The briefing by the new chief of staff lasted only 20 minutes, and afterward he answered, most briefly, questions by the committee members.

The chief of staff explained that he is going to meet with the supreme commander of the UN forces in our region, General Siilasvuo, in order to coordinate with him the continued cooperation between the IDF and the UN forces stationed in southern Lebanon. According to Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan, the cooperation with the UN forces is good and there is continuous contact between the different levels of command in the area. According to the chief of staff, there are repeated terrorist attempts to penetrate into the regions already evacuated in southern Lebanon. In some cases, the UN forces manage to take control over the situation and to prevent these penetration attempts, while in others the problems created are yet unsolved.

The Foreign Affairs and Security Committee heard from the chief of staff the opinion that it is inevitable that the IDF will remain in the border region in southern Lebanon until the UN forces complete their full deployment in the area and the additional 2,000 soldiers, promised by the UN secretary general, arrive. We need a clear feeling that the UN soldiers can prevent the penetration of terrorists into the south.

CHIEF OF STAFF: JUDAEA, SAMARIA VITAL TO ISRAEL

TA102037Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 2010 GMT 10 May 78 TA

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan says the IDF will not be able to guarantee the existence of the State of Israel as an independent state without Judaea and Samaria and the Golan Heights. As for Sinai, this is dependent on the nature of the agreements with Egypt when they are achieved. Lieutenant General Eytan made these remarks to our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir in a special interview for independence day that will be broadcast tomorrow evening. The chief of staff also said that he thinks the basic intention of the Arabs has remained to remove the State of Israel even though certain countries in the Arab world have recently decided to obtain this objective through means other than war.

HA'AREZ COMMENTS ON TASKS FACING WEIZMAN

TA101255Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 10 May 78 p 15 TA

[Ze'ev Schiff commentary]

[Excerpts] Two major issues concerned 'Ezer Weizman immediately upon assuming office of defense minister: the defense budget and discipline in the IDF. [paragraph continues]

He did what was not done by any defense minister preceding him, except for Ben-Gurion, when he decided on a significant cut in the defense budget and even used the method of making cuts in advance--without clarifying details. He left the IDF to manage on its own with the remaining sum. The IDF and especially the chief of staff were shocked by the method and by the cuts. "Ezer Weizman was not deterred by the criticism and also agreed to cut the 1978 budget, albeit in a different way.

I have talked with him several times on this issue and he always emphasizes: "I want us to have a lean and muscular army rather than one which is too fat and replete. After 4 years of receiving abundant equipment, and the taps were wide open, it is not bad for the IDF to introduce reforms. In any budgetary cut, despite the difficulty, there is also something positive."

There is undoubtedly a great deal of truth in what Weizman says. The positive is clear, but it is worth saying something about the difficulty caused in Weizman's first year as minister of defense. 1978 will be the first year when the strengthening clause will decrease to 50 percent of the budget. The amount allocated for this strengthening was always higher and this enabled us to build up our military strength at such a fast pace, confronted by all the Arab armies. True, with the broadening of the army, that section of the budget which finances current expenditures also grew, but in addition to this there are several economic and budgetary phenomena that will affect the growth of both the qualitative and quantitative strengthening of the IDF.

Because of galloping inflation in Israel (according to the Defense Ministry, inflation will amount to 47 percent this year) and the ever increasing price of the arms systems, the real value of both the dollar and the Israeli pound in the defense budget is decreasing. In 1978 there will be an actual decline of about 6 percent in the quantity of Israeli pounds at the disposal of the defense establishment. It is a mistake to think that this will only affect the building of offices, receptions, construction and so on. This will necessarily affect more vital spheres, such as training or orders for arms systems produced locally.

The best example of this is the order for Kfir aircraft for the air force. In 1977 the number of orders for these aircraft was decreased, and in 1978 the decrease will be more drastic. As for the dollar, the decrease will be greater. Next year the defense establishment will receive $1.1 billion instead of $1.4 billion for procurement from the United States, and in floating dollars (those to be spent outside the United States in cash)--$194 million instead of $300 million.

In the sphere of disciplinary matters too, Weizman entered office with impetus. He discussed this with the senior commanders and imposed several measures, but things did not move as fast as he wanted at the beginning. Within several months after assuming office Weizman was thrown into the turmoil of the political negotiations with Egypt. The impression of many is that it was not so much Begin and Dayan who wanted Weizman as a full partner in these negotiations, but rather As-Sadat, who indirectly dictated the reality.

Weizman linked the delay in treating the question of discipline and other organizational matters with the change of the chief of staff. He decided to wait until he appointed the new chief of staff. At first the intention was to replace Gur in January this year, but finally his term of service was extended until April. In any case, according to some of Weizman's confidants, Weizman did not comply with Gur's request to have his term extended by another year.

Refa'el Eytan is Weizman's chief of staff--his appointee. His predecessor, Shim'on Peres, did not have this right, that is, unlike Dayan, about whom it was said when something went wrong in the IDF that it was because the chief of staff had been imposed on him and was not his choice. The Weizman-Eytan duo will now march together for better or for worse.

Eytan has begun to act in the field where Weizman wanted to initiate actions--the field of discipline. It may be assumed that in the near future he will also act in the sphere of IDF organization. This is a subject which Weizman had instructed Major General (Res) Tal to investigate. But the discussion of Tal's report was postponed because of the firm objection of the previous chief of staff.

Reorganization will institutionalize the minister's supervision over the IDF and the entire system, since reorganization will certainly lead to the establishment of a well organized headquarters at the minister's side. With the appointment of Eytan as chief of staff, it is reasonable to assume that many decisions that met with Gur's opposition will go through without any difficulty. Mordekhay Gur delayed for months the decision that the defense establishment controller would also check the level of readiness in tne IDF. This led to disagreement between Deputy Defense Minister Zippori and Gur, and the defense minister finally decided in favor of his deputy.

Apparently, such clashes will not take place during Eytan's term as chief of staff. This is not the main point for the required reorganizing. A parallel headquarters by the side of the minister is needed in order to prevent total dependency on the system that led to the use of the cluster bombs in Lebanon in contradiction of the commitment made to Washington. It is only a pity the reorganization did not happen last year. A period of relative calm would have facilitated the reorganization. However, one way or the other, this will certainly be one of Weizman's most important tests as defense minister during his second year in office.

COST OF LITANI OPERATION REPORTED

TA101237Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 10 May 78 p 1 TA

[Text] Direct expenditure on the Litani Operation has amounted to over .5 billion Israeli pounds to date.

The calculation of the cost was recently made by the defense system economists. The sum in question is only for direct costs and does not include indirect costs that would have raised the figure.

Despite the large outlay it was decided in the Defense Ministry not to submit a request for additional fund. at this time.

The unexpected expenditure will make things difficult for the IDF in its various activities. Defense system economists say that ultimately, especially in view of inflation, which will be greater than that estimated by the Finance Ministry, the Defense Ministry will have no choice but to submit a supplementary budget in the second half of the fiscal year.

REPORTAGE ON CIVIL, POLITICAL UNREST IN IRAN

Riots Continue in Cities

LD101116Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0300 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Teheran newspapers this morning report that riots and chaos continued in several cities yesterday. In Qom the rebels set fire to several banks, government buildings and hotels and obstructed the movement of the Teheran-Khorramshahr train. According to Teheran morning newspapers the rioters attacked Qom Police Station No 1, compelling police officers to shoot into the air. The Teheran morning papers also report that the rioters cut off electricity in part of Qom and injured a group of police officers who attempted to prevent the rioting.

The newspaper reports indicate that the city of Qom was the scene of demonstrations, fire, subversion and attacks on public service institutions for a period of 10 hours from 1200 to 2200 yesterday. During those riots, 300 private automobiles were set on fire. The papers state that during the Qom clashes, 10 police officials were injured as a result of attack by rioters. A number of the rioters was also injured, five of whom died.

The reports also indicate that following the unrest in Tabriz 2 days ago and demonstrations at Azarabadegan University yesterday afternoon, a number of rioters marched in the university area carrying antinational placards, smashing windows in the buildings and setting fire to three automobiles in the university area.

In order to prevent the destruction of university installations, the university guards and reserve officers took action and, during the clash s which followed, two officers and a number of rioters were injured. They were immediately taken to the hospital for treatment. According to newspaper reports, two of the injured died in the hospital.

According to reports, an explosion occurred in the administration building for student affairs at the Pahlavi University in Shiraz, causing extensive fire. Riots also took place in several parts of Shiraz.

Government Statement

LD101242Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] The government has issued a statement about the recent events and the incidents of yesterday, the text of which is as follows:

As is known to all, during the past few months several cities in the country have become scenes of subversive troublemaking and violence by a limited group which has caused unrest to a large number of our compatriots through attacks on public institutions, particularly cultural and economic organizations, and threatening the life and property of individuals.

During all this time the government has tried, through maximum leniency and tolerance and by means of guidance and instruction, to draw the attention of these individuals to the uselessness of their undertakings and the inhumane and antinational character of their activities, and it has tried to send the wrongdoers and criminals to the judicial authorities.

But this leniency has been misinterpreted by the troublemakers and their instigators in that they have assumed government tolerance is unlimited and that they can continue their antinational and inhumane deeds wherever they wish, thus obstructing Iran's progress.

The regrettable incidents of Tuesday, 9 May in Qom clearly proved that a negligible minority of a few thousand people is openly trying to make life difficult for the people and, by resorting to violence and threats, disrupt public tranquillity and security. On Tuesday in Qom the troublemakers obstructed the departure of a passenger train and prevented people from reaching their destination, set fire to a branch of Bank-e Melli, where the people's money is deposited, destroyed private automobiles and set fire to a hotel used by pilgrims. Even the homes of religious (?leaders) were not safe from their invasion. During the past few days their collaborators in Teheran stabbed and wounded the dean of the Faculty of Letters and Humanities and wounded a university lecturer.

The number of such deeds raises the question as to the purpose of this group. Do these activities correspond to eastern moral standards? Does attack on the lives and property of the people, threat and nuisance and invasion of the liberty of others correspond to the protection of human rights and liberty? Does setting fire to the bank and the people's money constitute a service to them?

The lenient reaction of the government in recent months has revealed the nature of this group and their aims and has clearly shown that these few thousand people are no more than a negligible minority as compared to the 35 million people of Iran. But this negligible minority wants to compensate for its political bankruptcy by resorting to violence and subversion; it wishes to forcibly close the people's stores, to prevent the start of university classes and to shut women in their homes under the threat of throwing acid.

Now, because of the daily-increasing demand of people who wish to live peacefully and to be able to safeguard their work and livelihood and insure that their children are able to study; and because of the impatience of the millions of people who are impeded by a negligible antinational minority, devoid of faith and human dignity and lacking in the fundamentals of morality, the government, in view of its responsibility, announces that it will not tolerate disorder and troublemaking. The 35 million Iranian people expect the government to prevent a few thousand people from making a nuisance of themselves and trampling the security and peace of the majority underfoot. The government will fulfill this expectation with all its power and gives a stern warning that the saboteurs will be punished in accordance with the law.

Qom Violence Worsens

TA110825Y Paris AFP in English 0821 GMT 11 May 78 TA

[Text] Teheran, May 11 (AFP)--Violence erupted again yesterday in the Iranian holy city of Qom apparently worse than the bloody riots there on Tuesday.

Opposition sources charged today that security agents killed some 20 people on Wednesday including two Shi'ite Moslem clergymen.

This affirmation was made in a phone call to the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau here from Qom, which is 140 kilometers (85 miles) south of the Iranian capital.

Two mollahs were killed when security agents swooped down on the house of the Shi'ite religious leader Ayatollah Shariat Madari, 75, the sources said.

The old opposition leader was so shocked by the killings that he collapsed and has been put under medical treatment, the sources stated.

PAKISTANI MINISTER LEAVES, GIVES DEPARTURE INTERVIEW

LD101252Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Mr Agha Shahi, Pakistani minister of foreign affairs, ended his 4-day visit to Iran this morning and left Teheran for home.

According to a report by Mariam Behmard, the Voice and Profile of Iran correspondent, prior to leaving Teheran Mr Agha Shahi, in an interview at Mehrabad Airport, expressed his appreciation for having been received by the shah during his stay in Teheran and for the opportunity to learn his imperial majesty's views on matters of interest to the two countries and on world issues, and said he was impressed by Iran's progress. In the interview, Mr Agha Shahi emphasized the beneficial results of his talks with the shah and Iranian officials and said: The shah expressed his views, with extreme interest and attention, about the changes in the region and the need for the further expansion of friendly relations between Iran and Pakistan which will be communicated to General Ziaul Haq.

He then referred to his talks with Prime Minister Amuzegar during which he discussed progress in the North-South dialog and the role of the two countries in advancing this dialog. The Pakistani minister of foreign affairs mentioned his meetings with Mr Khal'atbari and other Iranian political officials and said that he exchanged views on Iranian-Pakistani relations and on the coming UN session on disarmament.

Mr Agha Shahi also mentioned his meetings with Mr Amir-'Abbas Hoveyda, Imperial Court minister, and his talks with Mr Yeganeh, minister of economy and finance, and assessed the results of the meetings as beneficial for the expansion of friendly relations between Iran and Pakistan at various levels. He also mentioned the Indian Ocean as a region of peace and, with reference to the recent events in our neighboring country, Afghanistan, emphasized that Iran and Pakistan very much wish the welfare and prosperity of the Afghan nation. He said: we wish them stability and strength.

With reference to the declaration of the Government of Afghanistan about future relations of Afghanistan with neighboring countries, Mr Agha Shahi stressed: Since we know that they want good relations, we, too, welcome them.

Concerning the Pakistani election, he said: After considering certain internal matters General Ziaul Haq will announce the precise date of elections. Concerning economic issues, Mr Agha Shahi also pointed out that during his visit to Iran he held talks with our country's officials about issues that concern the developing countries of the region.

Regarding the future of the situation in the Arab region of the Middle East, the Pakistani minister of foreign affairs said: This is a problem that has overshadowed world peace for about 30 years. He said he imagined that there was no other way for a solution except honoring the right of the Palestinian nation to a national home.

Mr Agha Shahi then stressed the need for greater cooperation among the nonregional members of CENTO. In conclusion he once again expressed his gratitude for the hospitality of the Government of Iran.

AFGHANISTAN

BANGLADESH RECOGNIZES NEW REGIME IN AFGHANISTAN

JN101306Y Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1000 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] The Information Directorate of the Foreign Ministry reports that at 1000 yesterday, His Excellency Choudhury Mansur Murshed, Bangladesh ambassador in Kabul, met with Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and conveyed to him a memo on Bangladesh's recognition of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. [Words indistinct] the happiness and prosperity of the Afghan Government and people from the Bangladesh Government and people.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO ATTEND HAVANA NONALINED MEETING

FL101456Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1409 GMT 10 May 78 FL

[Excerpts] In Kabul, the Afghan capital, it was learned that Hafezollah Amin, Afghan deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will arrive in our country next week to attend the 25th meeting of the nonalined movement Coordination Bureau. The meeting in Havana is scheduled to open 15 May, and it is expected that the Afghan foreign minister will arrive in the Cuban capital 3 days later.

This is the first foreign trip by a minister of the Afghan Revolutionary Government. The 25th meeting of the nonalined movement's Coordination Bureau had been scheduled for 6 May in Kabul, but the revolutionary government declined in favor of holding the meeting in Cuba.

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY RECEIVED BY AFGHAN OFFICIALS

LD101402Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan foreign secretary, met this morning with Babrak Karmal, deputy chairman of the Afghan Revolutionary Council.

Mr Karmal expressed the appreciation of the Afghan revolution and the Revolutionary Council for the fact that the Great 1 September Revolution stands with the Afghan revolution. He said: We are prouder of the support of the Jamahiriyah than that of any other country, because the Jamahiriyah enjoys wide respect as the pioneer of the liberation struggle in the world. Mr Babrak Karmal reaffirmed to the foreign secretary that the Afghan revolution stands hand-in-hand with the Great 1 September Revolution in the defense of the issues of freedom, Moslems and Islam and that the Afghan revolution stems from the true principles of Islam, which the Great 1 September Revolution defends and advocates. Mr Babrak Karmal expressed the Afghan revolution's appreciation of the achievements realized by the Great 1 September Revolution in all spheres and the revolution's pioneering attitudes toward Arab, Islamic African and international issues.

Meets With Amin

LD102342Y Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 10, JANA--Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary, held a meeting this morning with Mr Hafezollah Amin, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Afghanistan.

The meeting was also attended by the head of the Asian Department of the Foreign Secretariat and the Jamahiriyah's ambassador to Kabul.

The Afghan minister expressed his deep appreciation for the foreign secretary's visit and affirmed that the Jamahiriyah's support for Afghanistan was a support for true Islam. He said that the Afghan revolution would implement the unique experience witnessed by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that the Afghan revolution was the first revolutionary eruption in the area like the Fatah revolution in the Arab and African native land. "The unity between the two revolutions, which are based on the same principles, will be a great support for the masses' struggle against imperialism, Zionism and racism." He affirmed that the Afghan revolution was willing to co-operate with the great Fatah revolution in every field.

Meets With Aslam

LD102244Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary, who is currently on a visit to Afghanistan, is continuing his contacts and talks with officials in the Afghan Government. This evening he had a meeting with Maj Mohammad Aslam, deputy prime minister and minister of communications, and Col Abdol Qader, minister of defense, for 1 and 1/2 hours in the presence of the Jamahiriyah ambassador and the director of the Asian Department of the Foreign Secretariat.

The two ministers expressed their appreciation for the leading role being played by the Jamahiriyah under the leadership of the brother colonel in the service of Islam. The two ministers also stressed to the foreign secretary that the Afghan revolution will stand with the great 1 September Revolution in the service of the progressive forces and to realize the aspiration of the peoples' struggle for the common cause. The two ministers expressed their appreciation for the assistance and support which the Jamahiriyah has extended to the Afghan revolution and [words indistinct].

INDIA

SCIENTISTS TO STUDY HARMFUL ASPECTS OF U.S. DEVICE

BK100910Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 May 78 BK

[Text] The government has appointed a committee of scientists to inquire into the possibility of radioactive pollution of the Himalayan rivers by the nuclear device lost on the Nanda Devi in 1965. The committee is headed by the chairman of the National Committee of Science and Technology, Dr Atma Ram. Other members of the committtee are Dr H.N. Sethna, Dr Raja Ramana, Dr M.V.K. Menon, Dr Ramalinga Swamy and Dr Sana. The committee has been appointed in accordance with the prime minister's recent announcement in Parliament about the formation of the committee to study the various aspects of radioactivity of the device and its possible recovery.

TIMES OF INDIA OPPOSES RETURN OF PEACE CORPS WORKERS

BK100411Y Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 8 May 78 p 8 BK

[Editorial: 'No Peace Corps']

[Text] If, as an Indian news agency has reported, the United States Government is trying to find out whether the American Peace Corps, a Kennedy brainchild, can start functioning again in this country, then it ought to be told, politely but firmly, "no."

Even in the decade from the early 60's to the early 70's when Peace Corps volunteers here were quite thick on the ground--there were more than 700 of them in the mid-60's--there was no real need for them. The experience of working in a poor country may have been good for the volunteers' souls--though it was often a handicap in practical terms since many of them had problems finding jobs back in the U.S. and generally readjusting to conditions there. It may have led to personal friendships and attachments and may even have made some volunteers familiar with Third-World developmental problems. But the skills the volunteers, most of them fresh-faced and inexperienced, brought with them were not so considerable or so scarce that their application made any manifest difference to the general situation. Nor, if one is to be honest and realistic, can projects employing such secular missionaries be expected to achieve anything beyond the utterly marginal. In addition, rightly or wrongly, the whole scheme got entangled in political controversy with allegations flying around that at least a few volunteers were CIA wolves in do-gooder garb. Today, there is even less need for Peace Corps workers. The country, far from being deficient in most skills--except the very advanced ones which Peace Corps volunteers can't in any case provide--is replete with them and is exporting them to the oil- and petro-dollar-rich gulf states. The problem here is not so much a lack of skills as of employing them in an economy kept running by an adequate level of savings and investment. And there would be political repercussions as well. The Janata government is already being accused of giving non-alignment a definite pro-American bias, and the reentry of the Peace Corps would doubtless be seen as further evidence of its desire to take the country into the U.S. orbit of influence.

NEPAL

EDITOR OF PRO-SOVIET WEEKLY CHALLENGES GOVERNMENT BAN

BK1016335Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0806 GMT 10 May 78 BK

[Text] Katmandu, May 10 (AFP)--Madan Mani Dixit, the editor and publisher of the pro-Russian SAMIKSHYA, a vernacular weekly published from Katmandu, has filed a petition in the supreme court challenging a ban imposed by the Nepalese Government.

The government had banned the publication of this Russian mouthpiece under the Press and Publication Act without giving any reason.

In its last issue, the SAMIKSHYA had published a highly political cartoon maligning the higher authorities including the Council of Ministers headed by Prime Minister Kirti Nidhi Bista.

PAKISTAN

HAQ MEETS WITH LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER 9 MAY

BK0917102Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 May 78 BK

[Text] Libyan Foreign Minister Mr 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki called on Chief of the Army Staff and Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening and exchanged views with him on bilateral realtions. The meeting lasted for about 1 hour during which Mr Turayki conveyed greetings from President Qadhdhafi to the chief martial law administrator. Pakistan Foreign Secretary Mr Shahnawaz and Libyan Ambassador to Pakistan Bashir Muhammad Meghelrbi were also present on the occasion.

Later, talking to newsmen, Mr Turayki said Libya had the best of relations with Pakistan. Libya, he said, wanted to see a prosperous, strong and stable Pakistan. He said that a strong and united Pakistan would benefit the entire Moslem world.

Referring to the next meeting of the Libyan-Pakistan Joint Commission, he said that the dates for it were being worked out and that the meeting would take place in the near future. Mr Turayki, who later departed for Kabul, said the aim of his visit was to promote bilateral relations with Afghanistan.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER SHAHI RETURNS FROM IRAN

BK1016047Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 May 78 BK

[Text] The adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, today returned to Karachi from Teheran after a 4-day visit to Iran. Earlier, Iranian Foreign Minister Mr 'Abbas 'Ali Khal'atbari and other officials saw him off at Meherabad airport.

SOVIET EMBASSY DENIES AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS

BK1015517Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 May 78 BK

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in Islamabad today issued a statement saying that an interview published by a Lahore weekly is fabricated and that the remarks supposedly made by the Soviet ambassador are a distortion of the facts and a personal concoction.

The statement said the ambassador neither gave an interview nor issued a statement, and no editor or journalist of the weekly requested the ambassador to do so. The Soviet Embassy statement further said that the Soviet ambassador's friendly chat with representatives of the public media in Lahore was deliberately misinterpreted by this weekly.

The Soviet Embassy statement mentioned the statement made by the Soviet ambassador on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in which he gave details on the growing cooperation between the Soviet Union and Pakistan and said that the Soviet Union was consistently and sincerely pursuing a policy of friendship based on principles with Pakistan.

SOVIET ENVOY REMARKS ON GOOD USSR-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

BK1108347Y Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 11 May 78 BK

[Text] A function was held in Lahore yesterday to mark the anniversary of the establishment of Pakistan-Soviet diplomatic relations.

The minister-counselor of the Soviet Embassy, speaking on the occasion, said that the relations between two countries in the fields of culture, trade and economy were growing. He said the Soviet Union always adopted the policy of friendship based on principles with Pakistan and would continue to do so.

BRIEFS

PROJECTED INDIAN EXPORTS--Indian exports are believed to have touched 55-billion-rupee mark during 1977-78, registering an increase of over 41.4 billion rupees during the last decade. Minister of State for Commerce Baig said this at a seminar on India's foreign trade in Calcutta on 6 May. [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 6 May 78 BK]

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